

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Call to Order:** Chair Chas Vincent, on January 30, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Chas Vincent, Chair (R)  
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)  
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)  
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)  
Sen. Pat Connell (R)  
Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R)  
Sen. Jedediah Hinkle (R)  
Sen. Mary McNally (D)  
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)  
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Pat Christian, Committee Secretary  
Hope Stockwell, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 37, 1/25/2017

Executive Action: SB 47: Be Tabled  
SB 48: Do Pass as Amended

**HEARING ON SB 37**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:10 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 37, Establish coal-fired generating unit decommissioning remediation act.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:05:08 Aimee Reynolds, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

[EXHIBIT\(nas21a01\)](#)

00:07:54 Tim Burton, executive director, Montana League of Cities and Towns

00:09:20 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip, Rosebud County

00:11:33 David Galt, Montana Association of Oil, Gas, and Coal Counties

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:12:16 John Metropoulos, Talen Energy (TE)

00:18:26 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

00:27:23 Stephen Brown, Puget Sound Energy

00:34:31 Adam Haight, Northern Plains Resource Council

00:35:29 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:36:43 Sen. McNally

00:37:17 Ms. Reynolds, DEQ

00:38:16 Sen. McNally

00:38:32 Sen. Ankney

00:38:51 Sen. McNally

00:39:11 Sen. Ankney

00:40:10 Sen. Cohenour

00:40:41 Sen. Ankney

00:41:39 Sen. Cohenour

00:41:51 Ms. Reynolds

00:43:06 Sen. Cohenour

00:43:44 Sen. Barrett

00:45:32 Ms. Reynolds

00:46:37 Sen. Barrett

00:47:11 Ms. Reynolds

00:47:41 Chair Vincent

00:48:28 Mr. Metropoulos, TE

00:49:24 Chair Vincent

00:50:00 Ms. Hedges, MEIC

00:50:46 Chair Vincent

00:51:04 Ms. Hedges

00:51:17 Sen. Barrett  
00:52:13 Sen. Ankney  
00:52:50 Sen. Barrett  
00:53:05 Sen. Ankney

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:53:42 Sen. Ankney  
00:56:27 Sen. Ankney left the meeting.

Sen. Phillips was not present for executive action.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 47**

00:57:07 **Motion:** Sen. Cohenour moved that **SB 47 BE TABLED.**  
**EXHIBIT**(nas21a02)

**Discussion:**

00:57:21 Sen. Pomnichowski  
00:57:25 Chair Vincent  
00:57:38 Sen. Pomnichowski  
00:57:41 Chair Vincent  
00:57:50 Sen. Pomnichowski  
00:57:53 Chair Vincent  
00:57:58 Sen. Fielder  
00:58:06 Chair Vincent  
00:58:10 Sen. Fielder  
00:58:19 Chair Vincent

00:58: 32 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Ankney and Sen. Phillips were excused.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 48**

00:58:42 **Motion:** Sen. Vincent moved that **SB 48 DO PASS.**

00:59:12 **Motion:** Sen. Vincent moved that **SB 48 BE AMENDED.**  
**EXHIBIT**(nas21a03)

**Discussion:**

01:00:20 Sen. Cohenour  
01:01:16 Sen. Fielder  
01:02:43 Sen. Pomnichowski  
01:03:20 Chair Vincent  
01:03:26 Sen. Pomnichowski  
01:04:16 Chair Vincent  
01:05:41 Sen. Pomnichowski

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01:06:01 Chair Vincent  
01:06:05 Sen. Pomnichowski  
01:06:12 Chair Vincent  
01:07:08 Sen. Cohenour  
01:07:27 Chair Vincent

01:08:37 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-1 by roll call vote with Sen. Pomnichowski voting no. Sen. Ankney voted by proxy. Sen. Phillips was excused.

01:08:50 Sen. Connell

01:10:03 **Motion:** Sen. Vincent moved that **SB 48 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

01:10:07 Sen. Cohenour  
01:11:48 Sen. Barrett  
01:12:19 Chair Vincent  
01:15:15 Sen. Barrett  
01:15:38 Chair Vincent  
01:16:06 Sen. Fielder  
01:16:50 Sen. Pomnichowski  
01:18:02 Chair Vincent  
01:19:28 Sen. Connell

01:20:16 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-2 by roll call vote with Sen. Cohenour and Sen. Pomnichowski voting no. Sen. Ankney voted by proxy. Sen. Phillips was excused.

**Committee Business:**

01:21:12 Sen. Barrett  
01:21:49 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:22 PM

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Pat Christian, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nas21aad.pdf](#))